Appointment of Member-Secretary of ICHR

†4359. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the controversy on the appointment of the Member-Secretary of the Indian Council of Historical Research; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, Government's decision with regard to make appointment as per rules by reconsidering the whole matter of appointment ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Indian Council of Historical Research has appointed its Member-Secretary with the approval of Government of India as per its Memorandum of Association and Rules.

Removal of ICSSR Chairman

4360. SHRI JIBON ROY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the former ICSSR Chairman was unceremoniously removed as he was opposed to Hindutva agenda of the present Government; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Complaints were received from some of the sitting members of the Council regarding various irregularities committed by the Chairman, ICSSR. The Government looked into the matter and withdrew the nomination of Prof. M. L. Sondhi as Chairman, ICSSR, Prof. Sondhi has filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court and the matter is sub-judice.

Dilution of powers of Member-Secretary of ICHR

4361. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item captioned 'ICHR' chief dilutes Member-Secretary's powers, published in the Hindu (Delhi edition) dated the 30th June, 2001;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the state of affairs in Indian Council of Historical Research where Chairman and Member-Secretary are said to be working at Logger heads, tampering smooth functioning of Council; and

(c) the details of corrective measures taken to ensure smooth functioning of Council ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) News-item captioned 'ICHR chief dilutes Member-Secretary's powers' in The Hindu (Delhi edition) dated 30th June, 2001 relates to the period when Prof. K.S. Lal was temporarily holding charge of Chairman, ICHR, Prof. M.G.S. Narayanan and Dr. R.C. Agrawal have since joined as Chairman and Member-Secretary respectively in ICHR.

Government rules in ICHR and ICSSR

†4362. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research and Indian Council of Social Studies Research are both financed by Government;

(b) if so, which rules of Government of India are applicable to these organisations;

(c) whether the Government of India rules relating to official language have also been made applicable to these organisations; and

(d) if so, the details of the form in which these rules have been enforced and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both these Councils are governed by their respective MOA & Rules.

(c) and (d) Official Language Policy of the Government is applicable in these Councils. All efforts are being made to implement it. ICHR and ICSSR has informed that their Annual Report is printed in Hindi and English and all the letters received in Hindi are replied in Hindi.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.